

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

September 21, 1969

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

○ Latvian Activities in the United States

On September 22, 1969, a confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available the following information:

On Saturday afternoon, September 20, 1969, the organization Baltic Appeal to the United Nations (BATUN), held a peaceful demonstration at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, First Avenue, across from the United Nations (UN) Building. The demonstration was entirely peaceful and there were no unusual incidents. The purpose of the demonstration was to publicize the thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact which in effect began the Soviet take-over of the Baltic states. The demonstration was also planned to call attention to the plight of the Baltic states under Soviet domination.

The demonstration lasted approximately two hours with about 500 demonstrators in attendance. The program included speeches from various attending dignitaries including Alfreds Berzins, a former Minister of Free Latvia. There were speeches from other individuals representing the Baltic states of Estonia and Lithuania. In attendance also was a representative from the office of the Secretary of Transportation, a United States Congressman from the Bronx, New York and the Chinese Delegate to the UN, Wang Neng Hsiens.

As a result of the demonstration resolutions in regard to the present plight of the Baltic states were adopted. These resolutions are to be sent to the President of the United States and to the UN.

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Revolution Activities in the
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Shortly before the demonstration broke up, only as a spontaneous action, some of the demonstrators marched across First Avenue toward the UN grounds. However, guards at the UN closed the gates to the various entrances and there was no trouble. The crowd then dispersed and the demonstration was over.

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